

# LEMUR TARDIGRADUS.



## CHARACTER GENERICUS.

*Dentes primores superiores* 4: intermediis remotis.

Inferiores 6: longiores, porrecti, compressi, paralleli, approximati.

*Laniarii* solitarii, approximati.

*Molares* plures, sublobati; antici longiores, acutiores.

*Lin. Syst. Nat.* p. 44.

## CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

LEMUR ecaudatus, subferrugineo-cinereus, linea dorsuali fusca.

## LEMUR ECAUDATUS.

*Lin. Syst. Nat.* p. 44.

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Singulare hoc animal interdum pro Bradypi specie errantes habuerunt auctores, et nomine Tardigradi Ceylonici descripserunt. Bradypo tamen nequaquam affine est, nisi quod, (ut ipsum nomen vult,) tarde admodum gradiatur; in quo sine ab omnibus aliis sui ipsius generis speciebus insignitur differt: sunt enim illæ ingenii maxime vividi, et motus omnino celerissimi. Notabile etiam est quod vel ullo candæ vestigio penitus careat. Indiam Orientalem, et præcipue insulam Ceyloniam inhabitat Lemur Tardigradus. Magnitudo

nitudo ejus est fere felis junioris domesticæ. Coloris est pallide fusci: oculi autem circulis obscuris, seu fusco-nigricantibus cinguntur, qui supra caput coeuntes, lineam eodem colore continuatam per dorfi longitudinem ducunt.

Pellis illi est delicatula et mollissima. Facies est quasi antice truncata, naso subacuminato: oculi magni, valde convexi, perfectas velut hemisphærias repræsentant, iridibus coloris fere succinei. Digitus interior pedum posteriorum unguem acutum gerit; cæteri digiti ungues rotundatos et complanatos habent. Sylvas incolit, et fructibus vescitur; sed et animalia fertur devorare; aviculas scilicet; quod (ut mihi videtur) ob insignem tarditatem vix verisimile est. Alia est hujus generis species, vere diversa, huic nostræ tamen in multis similis, cuique etiam cauda deficit; sed multo minor, multo gracilior, et velocior; quam cum Lemure Tardigrado confundunt nonnulli auctores, et communiter nomine *Loris* cognoscunt.





# THE SLOW-PACED LEMUR.



## GENERIC CHARACTER.

Six *Cutting Teeth*, and two *Canine Teeth* in each jaw.

*Visage* (generally) sharp-pointed.

*Feet* formed like hands, in the manner of apes.

## SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

TAIL-LESS LEMUR, of a subferruginous ashy-colour, with a brown dorsal line.

TAIL-LESS MACAUCO.

*Pennant. Hist. Quadr. p. 212.*

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This curious animal is sometimes improperly regarded as a species of Sloth, and has been called the Ceylon Sloth; but it is not in the least allied to that genus, and has only been so named from the slowness of its motions; in which it differs in the most striking manner from all other species of its own genus, which are animals of the most lively disposition, and the most vivid celerity of motion. Another peculiarity belonging to this creature, is the total defect of a tail, of which not so much as a vestige appears. It inhabits the East-Indies, and particularly the island of Ceylon. Its size

is nearly that of a young cat. Its colour a uniform palish brown, but the eyes are surrounded with circles of deep brown or blackish, which unite on the top of the forehead, and from thence a continued line of brown runs down the back. The fur on the whole animal is remarkably fine and soft. The face very flat, but the nose somewhat sharpened. The eyes are large and extremely convex, so as to appear like perfect hemispheres. The irides are amber-coloured. The inner toe of each hind-foot is furnished with a sharp, crooked claw, while the rest of the toes have flat, rounded nails. It inhabits woods, and feeds on fruit; but is likewise said to eat animal food, and to kill small birds, but this, on account of its extreme slowness, does not seem very probable.

There is another species of this genus, which agrees with this in many particulars, and is destitute of a tail, and has sometimes been confounded with it; but in reality it is a very different species; being much smaller, and having both limbs and body much thinner in proportion: it is called by several authors by the name of the *Loris*.